

Taxonomic Notes for *Salvia aucheri* (Lamiaceae) from Southern Anatolia, Turkey

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ABSTRACT. *Salvia aucheri* Benth. (Lamiaceae) is a species endemic to Turkey, and the name is lectotypified herein. Two varieties were previously recognized, as *S. aucheri* var. *aucheri* and *S. aucheri* var. *canescens* Boiss. & Heldr.; the infraspecific taxa are recognized here as subspecies. During revisionary work on Turkish *Salvia* L., we determined that *S. aucheri* subsp. *canescens* (Boiss. & Heldr.) Celep, Kahraman & Doğan differs from subspecies *aucheri* not only morphologically, but also geographically and phenologically, and both taxa are typically allopatric.

Key words: Lamiaceae, *Salvia*, Turkey.

The genus *Salvia* L. (Lamiaceae) was first treated for Turkey by Hedge (1982) in Davis's *Flora of Turkey and the East Aegean Islands*, in which 86 species were recognized. Since 2005, extensive field surveys and laboratory studies have been conducted on *Salvia* in Turkey by the authors (Celep & Doğan, 2009; Celep et al., 2009; Ilcim et al., 2009; Kahraman et al., 2009). Among these species, *S. aucheri* Benth. is endemic to Turkey, and its dried leaves are commonly consumed locally as an herbal tea (Celep, pers. obs.).

Salvia aucheri was first collected from Cilicia (the eastern Mediterranean region of Turkey) by Gustave Coquebert de Montbret. Specimens of novelties for the Lamiaceae were generally stated to be at Montbret's herbarium at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew (Bentham, 1836: 37). Bentham subsequently described *S. aucheri* as a new species (1836: 38), noting the type as only "Hab. in Ciliciâ." One collection by de Montbret (1534) was found at Kew from the Turkish location of Cilicia, and this collection can be accepted as type material for *S. aucheri*. Because Bentham did not specify a particular collection, the name is lectotypified herein.

In contrast to *Salvia aucheri* from the eastern Mediterranean region, the type of *S. aucheri* var. *canescens* Boiss. & Heldr. was collected from Pinarbaşı in the central portion of the Mediterranean region of Turkey in 1845 and described by Boissier and Heldreich in 1879. In the Turkish account for *Salvia* by I. C. Hedge (1982), variety *canescens* was

accepted as a local endemic within *S. aucheri*, similar to Boissier and Heldreich's 1879 treatment. Three other previously accepted varieties of the species (*S. aucheri* var. *amethystea* Emb. & Maire, *S. aucheri* var. *aurasiaca* Maire, and *S. aucheri* var. *mesatlantica* Maire) were later transferred to the North African species *S. blancoana* Webb & Heldr. ex Walp. (Figuerola, 1987; Figuerola et al., 1990).

Since 2005, the authors have carried out extensive field studies, collecting *Salvia aucheri* across its distributional range. These specimens were cross-checked with material housed at various herbaria (ANK, BM, E, G, GAZI, HUB, ISTE, and K). These field and herbarium studies demonstrate that the infraspecific taxa of *S. aucheri* are closely related, but differ at the subspecies level (Table 1). The taxa also differ in terms of their geographic distribution and phenology. *Salvia aucheri* and its subspecies *canescens* are both known from the Mediterranean region of Turkey, but according to Davis's grid system (1965), the former is distributed across the C5 and C6 grid squares while the latter is known only from the C4 grid square. Our field studies are also consistent with the *Flora of Turkey* (Hedge, 1982) and *Flora Orientalis* (Boissier, 1879).

Flowering of *Salvia aucheri* subsp. *canescens* occurs in June(–July); however, flowering of subspecies *aucheri* occurs for a longer interval, from June to August(–October) (Hedge, 1982; Celep, pers. obs.). Because of the morphological, chorological, and phenological differences, the taxa should be distinguished at the subspecies level.

1. *Salvia aucheri* Benth., Ann. Sci. Nat., Bot., ser. 2, 6: 38: 1836. TYPE: Turkey. "Hab. in Ciliciâ" [C5, Adana/Mersin, E Mediterranean region of Turkey], s.d. [1836], G. Coquebert de Montbret 1534 (lectotype, designated here, K).

1a. *Salvia aucheri* subsp. *aucheri*.

Specimens examined. TURKEY. **C5: Adana:** Karsantı, E. Yurdakul 41 (ANK); Pozantı, Gülek pass, W. Siehe 665 (E); Gülek, P. H. Davis 16476 (ANK); Pozantı, ca. Gülek Boğazı, G. Akaydın & F. Celep 980 (ANK); Pozantı to

Table 1. Diagnostic morphological characters of *Salvia aucheri* subsp. *aucheri* and *S. aucheri* subsp. *canescens*.

	subsp. <i>aucheri</i>	subsp. <i>canescens</i>
Stem length (cm)	45–110	15–70
Leaves	simple or occasionally with one pair of lateral lobes	always simple
Leaf shape	oblong, elliptic to ovate-elliptic	linear-elliptic to elliptic
Leaf dimensions (cm)	(1.4–)4–13.5 × (1–)2–6	1–3.5(–4.5) × 0.4–1.6
Calyx length (mm)	6–10	4–6(–7)
Corolla color	whitish to light blue	pinkish to lilac
Corolla length (mm)	20–35(–40)	15–23

Akçatekir Kasabası, *F. Celep* 1574 (ANK); Thyanitis, *W. Siehe* 888 (K). **Mersin:** Çamlıyayla (Namrun), Pozantı to Çamlıyayla, Kadıncık valley, *F. Celep* 1570 (ANK); Çamlıyayla, ca. Sarıkavak village, *Z. Aytaç* 7026 *et al.* (GAZI); Tekir, *A. Huber-Morath* 1031 (ANK). **Niğde:** Ulukışla, Aksaray to Adana, *J. Darrah* 230 (E); Çiftehan, Bolkar Mtn., Alihoca village, *F. Celep* 1359. **C6: Osmaniye:** Amanos Mtn., *Y. Akman* 3029 (ANK); Gaziantep to Osmaniye 100 km, *N. & M. Tanker & E. Sezik* (ISTE 8302).

1b. *Salvia aucheri* subsp. *canescens* (Boiss. & Heldr.) Celep, Kahraman & Doğan, stat. nov. Basionym: *Salvia aucheri* var. *canescens* Boiss. & Heldr., Fl. Orient. 4: 593. 1875. *Salvia ermenekensis* Rech. f., Oesterr. Bot. Z. 95: 423. 1949. TYPE: Turkey. C4 Konya: “ad Bounarbachı [Pınarbasi] et in valle Djoksu [Göksu] inter Karaman et Ermenek,” 25 June 1845, *Theodor von Heldreich* 951 (holotype, G).

Specimens examined. TURKEY. **C4: Karaman:** 5 km S of Karaman, *J. Archibald* 6789 (E); Ermenek, Balkusan (fr.) *P. H. Davis* 16196 (ANK); betw. Ermenek & Mut, *E. Tuzlacı* (ISTE 45135); Ermenek, Kazancı village, *E. Tuzlacı* (ISTE 45221); Mut to Ermenek, 25 km before Ermenek, Çamlıca village to Damlaçal, *G. Akaydın & F. Celep* 994 (ANK); Ermenek, Mut to Ermenek, 1.5–2 km before Ermenek, *G. Akaydın & F. Celep* 999 (ANK); Mut to Ermenek, 39 km

before Ermenek, *F. Celep* 1245 (ANK); above Boyalı village, *A. Güner* 12664 (GAZI); Sarıveliler to Ermenek 4 km, *Z. Aytaç* 7580 *et al.* (GAZI). **Içel:** 1 km NE of Gülnar, *A. Huber-Morath* 9587 (E).

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